WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A communications network, comprising:

a first node having a first port;

a second node having a second port, wherein the second port is connected to the first port by a communications link;

wherein:

the first node transmit a first identification message from the first port, the identification message addressed to an address, the identification message comprising only one frame;

the second node receives the identification message on the second port;

the second node logs the identification information; and

the second node delivers the identification information to an administrator, the administrator operable to determine that the first node and the second node are physically connected.

2. The communications network of claim 1, wherein the address is a multicast address.

3. The communications network of claim 1, wherein the node transmits the first message at an expiration of a delay.

4. The communications network of claim 1, wherein the first message is sent responsive to a user command.

5. The communications network of claim 1, wherein the identification information comprises an IP address.

6. The communications network of claim 1, wherein the identification information comprises a MAC address.

7. The communications network of claim 1, wherein:

the first identification message further comprises statistical information about the first node and the first port ; and

the second identification message further comprises statistical information about the second node and the second port.

8. The communications network of claim 1, wherein:

the first identification message further comprises characteristic information about the first node and the first port;

the second identification messages further comprises characteristic information about the second node and the second port.

9. The communications network of claim 1, wherein:

the node is operable to receive a command;

the node, in response to the command, sends the identification information to an administrator.

10. A method for determining a network topography, comprising the steps of:

transmitting from a first port on a first node, an identification message, the identification message comprising only one frame and containing identification information;

receiving on a second port of a second node, the identification message;

logging the identification information;

delivering the logged identification information to an administrator;

determining a nearest neighbor for the first node, where the nearest neighbor has received an identification message from the first node, or the nearest neighbor has received an identification message from the first node.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the identification message is addressed to a multicast address.

12. The method of claim 10, further comprising waiting for the expiration of a delay before transmitting the message.

13. The method of claim 10, further comprising waiting for a user command before transmitting the message.

14. The method of claim 10, wherein the identification information comprises an IP address.

15. The method of claim 10, wherein the identification information comprises a MAC address.

16. The method of claim 10, wherein the identification information comprises statistical information.

17. The method of claim 10, wherein the identification information comprises characteristic information.

18. An information handling system, comprising:

a first node having a first port, the first node operable to be connected in a computer network comprising a second node, the second node having a second port;

wherein the first node is operable to:

transmit a first message a first identification message, the first identification messaged addressed to an address, the first identification message comprising only one frame;

receive a second message on the first port, the second message addressed to the address, the second message comprising identification information about a second node in the communication network, the second node having a second port, the second message comprising only one frame;

log the identification information; and

deliver the identification information to an administrator, the administrator operable to determine that the first node and the second node are physically connected.

19. The information handling system of claim 18, wherein the identification information comprises an IP address.

20. The information handling system of claim 18, wherein the administrator is operable to detect non-participating nodes in the network.